

that was patterned with transverse lines of small rusty-brown spots forming solid stripes along the back of the head. The chin and the undersides of the forearms had dark brown stripes. The white underside had black spots. Based on these characteristics, the animal was identified as the rustyspotted cat *Prionailurus rubiginosus* (I. Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire, 1831) – a new record for the Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve.

IUCN (1996) and Acharjyo *et al.* (1997) report it to be widespread in southern India, but nowhere is it common; considering the patchy and infrequent collections and observations of Gee (1964), Prater (1971), Chakraborty (1978), Pathak (1990), Chavan *et al.* (1991), Tehsin (1994) and Digveerendrasinh (1995).

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K. THULSI RAO,  
D. SUDHAKAR,  
V. VASUDEVA RAO,  
V. NAGULU,

*Nagarjunasagar Srisailem Tiger Reserve,  
Sunnipenta, Srisailem,  
Kurnool District, Andhra Pradesh.*

C. SRINIVASULU,  
*Wildlife Biology Section,  
Department of Zoology,  
Osmania University, Hyderabad 500 007.*

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### 3. SIGHTING OF THE CARACAL *CARACAL CARACAL* IN JALORE DISTRICT, RAJASTHAN

Shri Pradeep Singh, Pradhan Panchayat Samiti, Jalore, Rajasthan, informs me that he has seen two caracal near village Takhatpura, tehsil and district Jalore, in February, 1998 and that he was able to watch them for a good twenty minutes. Shri Pradeep Singh affirms that he is certain that what he saw were not jungle cats (*Felis chaus*). "The black tufts on the ears were very distinctive and the short tail assured me that

what I was watching were not jungle cats. Unfortunately, I did not have a camera with me that day." I have known Shri Pradeep Singh for some years and can vouch for his veracity and ability to distinguish a jungle cat.

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M.K. RANJITSINH  
*WWF-India,*

*172-B Lodhi Estate, New Delhi 110 003.*